

554 to use the thatched house of the chief of the lower class in
177 the village (called *Tui Nggalinggali*). When Masi heard of
634 this arrangement he immediately walked half-way around the
island to see us, and begged us with tears in his eyes to
accept his hospitality and not that of the chief of the lower
class. Such an arrangement, he felt, would be a personal
slight.

554 Masi's appointment undoubtedly fanned the flames of
177 jealousy between Tokalau and Tanggu, the two rival villages
578 on Kambara. This reached a high point when the whole
634 island was preparing for the visit of Ratu Sukuna, the district
commissioner of Lau. The production of tribute objects (i.e.
two canoes, sails, mats, and tapa) and the preparations for
the feast and ceremonies took several months. As the date
of the visit drew near a quarrel arose between Tokalau and
Tanggu because the latter insisted upon having two separate
ceremonies, one for west Kambara at Tokalau, and one for
east Kambara at Tanggu. Long and heated discussions were
[623] held at frequent village assemblies, and nearly every day
individuals representing one side or the other would visit us
and whisper new developments in the affair. Each side re-
mained adamant, but the matter was quickly settled when the
district commissioner announced upon arrival that he could
stay only a few hours on the island. Both factions then
united in the ceremonies at Tokalau, but many individuals
on the east side consequently missed the festivities.

634 The division of political power in the Kambara district has
614 deeply affected the ranking clan of Tokalau and especially
554 its headman, Tchosaia, the titular chief of Kambara. For
159 five months I lived next door to Tchosaia, an old man of
about seventy years, in one of his houses in the clan compound,
and learned to know him well. Tchosaia lived alone in the
largest house in the village. It was well built on a stone-faced
mound over a meter high, and decorated with cowry shells,
a symbol of rank. We were accepted by the clan and took